

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 288

By Stevens

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Guy Wilkinson for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as President of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Attorney Guy Wilkinson of Camden, who was selected in 1987 to serve the citizens of Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin, and Henry counties with distinction as District Public Defender during a four-year pilot program. In 1991, he was appointed by the Governor to serve an additional year and has, since 1992, been reelected by the citizens to continue serving as the District Public Defender for the 24th Judicial District; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as President of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference, Mr. Wilkinson has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to this State; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilkinson was born in Garrett, Indiana, and resided in several states, prior to earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Memphis in 1970. He obtained his Doctor of Jurisprudence at the University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law in 1976 and engaged in private practice from 1977 to 1987; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilkinson honorably served his country as a member of the United States Army between 1970 and 1972; and

WHEREAS, recognized as a leader by his peers and colleagues, Guy Wilkinson is currently serving his second tenure as the President of the Tennessee District Public Defenders

Conference, having previously served as Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and as a member of the Executive Committee, as well as other notable committees for the Conference; and

WHEREAS, Guy Wilkinson epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Tennessee Bar Association, Mr. Wilkinson has served on the American Red Cross Board, Carey Counseling Center Board in Paris, Tennessee, Foster Care Review Board, Community Corrections Board for the 24th Judicial District, and Chairman of the Benton County Library Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilkinson has coached little league baseball, served as the PTA President on two occasions, and spent years housing foster children during transitional phases; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, he is a member of the Eva Road Church of Christ and serves faithfully as a Minister; and

WHEREAS, Guy Wilkinson is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Phillis, four children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. Wilkinson has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the members of the bar and bench and his community alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Guy Wilkinson for his meritorious service to the good people of the State of Tennessee as the President of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference 2012-2013 and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.